the vertebral plates are much elongated and of the most elegant forms: the colour in this specimen is much darker than usual, the sculpture of the scuta more distinct and perfect, and the carinæ nearer together. In the Zoological Journal of 1825, I described it, (not having then seen any other example of the species,) under the name of *K. Shavianum*, after the naturalist who had figured it: I soon afterwards, however, found that it was only a variety of the present species.

The *Kinosternon longicaudatum* of Spix, may be safely assumed as identical with this; the colour and markings of the head and limbs no less than the details of the shell, prove this to be the case. *K. brevicaudatum* of the same author, although at first sight apparently somewhat dissimilar, is probably only a sexual variety; as a specimen received some time since at the Zoological Society, has the plain scuta, short tail, and other characters of the latter, with the mottled head of the former, which it also resembles in size. Mr. Gray's "var. *acuta*" is most likely the character of immature age.

Spix, by some strange oversight, assigns to each of the individuals described by him, twenty-five marginal plates; though in the figures they have each twenty-three, the number which not only invariably belongs to this species, but also to all others of the genus.

The habits of this tortoise would appear to sanction the situation in which I had placed the genus in the paper on the Box Tortoises, before alluded to, as well as in a subsequent attempt to establish the characters of the different groups of the Testudinata; namely, amongst the Box Tortoises, and nearer to the terrestrial family than the rest of the *Emydidæ*. The remarkable elevation of the shell would at once point out in this case, as well as in *Terrapene clausa*, that they cannot be suited for the rapid pursuit of their prey in the water, and we find consequently that they principally live in marshes, along the borders of rivers.